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FEB 20 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Application No. 09/982,499

B. Version with Markings to Show Changes Made.

In the Claims

1. (Amended) A reusable, collapsible, cleanable shipping container having:
a bottom with a peripheral edge,
first and second opposed pairs of walls,
hinges connecting the walls each to an edge of the bottom, the hinges being [informed]
formed of a unitary piece of resilient, flexible material fused to the walls and bottom to
form a seamless joint [their between] **between the flexible material and the walls and**
between the flexible material and the bottom,
the walls having a first open position in which they extend away from the bottom and lie
generally in the plane of the bottom, and
a second, erect position in which the walls extend upward from the base to form a
container, and
force transmitting surfaces on the walls and bottom that transmit **upward and**
downward vertical forces between the walls and the bottom when the walls are in the
erect position and thereby limit the extent to which said forces are transmitted between
the walls and bottom through the hinges.

5. (Amended) **A reusable, collapsible, cleanable shipping container having:**
a bottom with a peripheral edge,
first and second opposed pairs of walls,

hinges connecting the walls each to an edge of the bottom, the hinges being formed of a unitary piece of resilient, flexible material fused to the walls and bottom to form a seamless joint between the flexible material and the walls and between the flexible material and the bottom, the walls having a first open position in which they extend away from the bottom and lie generally in the plane of the bottom, and a second, erect position in which the walls extend upward from the base to form a container, and force transmitting surfaces on the walls and bottom that transmit forces between the walls and the bottom when the walls are in the erect position and thereby limit the extent to which said forces are transmitted between the walls and bottom through the hinges, the walls each defining a plane and the surfaces on the walls include surfaces substantially normal to the respective planes, and [The container of claim 4] wherein the bottom includes a T shaped projection that forms a part of the force transmitting surfaces.

6. (Amended) **A reusable, collapsible, cleanable shipping container having:**
a bottom with a peripheral edge,
first and second opposed pairs of walls,
hinges connecting the walls each to an edge of the bottom, the hinges being
formed of a unitary piece of resilient, flexible material fused to the walls and

bottom to form a seamless joint between the flexible material and the walls and between the flexible material and the bottom,

the walls having a first open position in which they extend away from the bottom and lie generally in the plane of the bottom, and

a second, erect position in which the walls extend upward from the base to form a container, and

force transmitting surfaces on the walls and bottom that transmit forces between the walls and the bottom when the walls are in the erect position and thereby limit the extent to which said forces are transmitted between the walls and bottom through the hinges,

the walls each defining a plane and the surfaces on the walls include surfaces substantially normal to the respective planes, and

[The container of claim 4] wherein the bottom includes at least two T shaped projections and at least some of the walls include T shaped openings that cooperate with the T shaped projections of the bottom to transmit loads between the walls and the bottom.